THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) India won 10 Gold, 18 Silver and 26 Bronze totalling 54 medals in Doha Asian Games 2006, which is a 50% increase against the 36 medals won during Asian Games, 2002 by the Indian contingent. The information given in the question substantially corresponds to the information available to Government.

(b) High-profile selection and heavy expenditure by training organizations is not in itself adequate to ensure a high medal tally. It is Government's view that there has to be a concerted drive to broad-base sports infrastructure in the country at large, and scientifically work towards identifying and nurturing sporting talent at a young age, and across all regions of the country and economic and social classes, within the framework of a holistic cradle-to-grave sports policy. To this end, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is at an advanced stage of preparing the proposed "Panchayat Yuva Khel aur Krida Abhiyan" and has further been directed to prepare a Comprehensive Sports Policy which will widen the sports net and thus contribute to a larger medals tally.

(c) A 'Comprhensive Sports Policy' is being drawn up by the Ministry. This policy will address the fundamental issue of making sports facilities available to the overwhelming majority of youth, adolescents and children of our country who have hitherto had little or no access to organized games and sports. The policy will also address the question of the integration of sports and physical education with the formal education system. Through broad-basing of sports in the country, it will be possible to promote excellence in sports.

Recruitment in NYKS

4739. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan had given job advertisements in the newspapers on 3.1.96 and 26.02.96 and simultaneously, selection tests were conducted in November 1997 and the results were not notified to the candidates;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Standing Committee has recommended that those who qualified should be appointed on a priority basis on any vacant posts which arises; and

(d) whether Government are taking any step to address the grievances?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An advertisement was issued by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) during December, 1996 inviting applications for recruitment to the post of District Youth Coordinators. However, the recruitment process was cancelled by the Government due to the following reasons:

(i) Approval for the creation of posts had not been obtained from the Government of India.

(ii) In accordance with the advertisement inviting applications, the required educational qualification was fixed at the graduate level but only post-graduate were called for the written test/interview.

(iii) A number of complaints were received relating to appointment to these posts.

Funds spent on Cricket

†4740. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds spent on the Cricket by Government during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006, amount-wise;

(b) the details of the amount spent on the Cricket as well as on other domestic games like Football, Basket-ball, Hockey and volley-ball by Government during the years, 2004, 2005 and 2006, State-wise;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to promote Kabbadi, Hockey, Basket-ball and Volley-ball and to impart trainings in these field; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.